

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Change "Patent Claims:" to -- We claim --.

1 - 22 (canceled).

1           23. (new) A leveling bar for a coking oven, comprising:  
2            a pair of mutually parallel spaced apart substantially  
3            vertical cheeks extending over a length of a coke oven chamber;  
4            a multiplicity of coal entrainers spaced apart over the  
5            lengths of said cheeks, extending transversely between said cheeks,  
6            connected to said cheeks and occupying only a part of a cross  
7            sectional area of the leveling bar, said coal entrainers having  
8            heights of the entire spacing between said cheeks which are at most  
9            half the height of said cheeks; and

10           a baffle-free gas passage formed in said leveling bar  
11          between said cheeks and above said coal entrainers over substan-  
12          tially the length of said leveling bar.

1           24. (new) The leveling bar defined in claim 22 wherein  
2          the number of said coal entrainers is selected so that a sum of  
3          surfaces of said coal entrainers exposed between said cheeks is at  
4          least equal to the sum of the exposed surfaces of coal entrainers  
5          of conventional leveling bars without the passage.

-1           25. (new) The leveling bar defined in claim 23 wherein  
-2          the coal entrainers are spaced apart by a distance corresponding to  
-3          the height of the coal entrainers.

1           26. (new) The leveling bar defined in claim 23 wherein  
2 the coal entrainers have different heights.

1           27. (new) The leveling bar defined in claim 23 wherein  
2 the coal entrainers are oriented at angles to the vertical.

1           28. (new) The leveling bar defined in claim 23 wherein  
2 the cheeks have wedge-shaped cross sections.

1           29. (new) The leveling bar defined in claim 23 wherein  
2 said cheeks are perforated.

1           30. (new) The leveling bar defined in claim 23, further  
2 comprising support and guide rollers engaging said leveling bar,  
3 said rollers having a bevel.

1           31. (new) The leveling bar defined in claim 30, further  
2 comprising a shifting device for laterally shifting said support  
3 and guide rollers.

1           32. (new) The leveling bar defined in claim 23 wherein  
2 said cheeks have openings laterally bounded by ribs oriented at  
3 angles to the cheeks.

1           33. (new) The leveling bar defined in claim 23 wherein  
2 said entrainers have openings.

1           34. (new) The leveling bar defined in claim 23 wherein  
2 the leveling bar is sealed with a sealing and guide box.

1           35. (new) The leveling bar defined in claim 34 wherein  
2 the sealing and guide box has support shafts for the leveling bar.

1           36. (new) A leveling bar for a coking oven, comprising:  
2           a pair of mutually parallel spaced apart substantially  
3 vertical cheeks extending over a length of a coke oven chamber;  
4           a multiplicity of coal entrainers spaced apart over the  
5 lengths of said cheeks, extending transversely between said cheeks,  
6 connected to said cheeks and occupying only a part of a cross  
7 sectional area of the leveling bar, said coal entrainers having  
8 heights of the entire spacing between said cheeks which are at most  
9 half the height of said cheeks;  
10           a baffle-free gas passage formed in said leveling bar  
11 between said cheeks and above said coal entrainers over substan-  
12 tially the length of said leveling bar; and  
13           said coal entrainers being movably fastened on said  
14 cheeks.

1           37. (new) A leveling bar for a coking oven, comprising:  
2           a pair of mutually parallel spaced apart substantially  
3 vertical cheeks extending over a length of a coke oven chamber;  
4           a multiplicity of coal entrainers spaced apart over the  
5 lengths of said cheeks, extending transversely between said cheeks,  
6 connected to said cheeks and occupying only a part of a cross

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7       sectional area of the leveling bar, said coal entrainers having  
8       heights of the entire spacing between said cheeks which are at most  
9       half the height of said cheeks;

10            a baffle-free gas passage formed in said leveling bar  
11       between said cheeks and above said coal entrainers over substan-  
12       tially the length of said leveling bar; and

13            movable coal scrapers on said cheeks.

1       38. (new) A leveling bar for a coking oven, comprising:  
2            a pair of mutually parallel spaced apart substantially  
3       vertical cheeks extending over a length of a coke oven chamber;  
4            a multiplicity of coal entrainers spaced apart over the  
5       lengths of said cheeks, extending transversely between said cheeks,  
6       connected to said cheeks and occupying only a part of a cross  
7       sectional area of the leveling bar, said coal entrainers having  
8       heights of the entire spacing between said cheeks which are at most  
9       half the height of said cheeks;

10            a baffle-free gas passage formed in said leveling bar  
11       between said cheeks and above said coal entrainers over substan-  
12       tially the length of said leveling bar; and

13            fluid conduits with nozzles arranged on said cheeks.